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Saint Paul MN 55105
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Received & Inspected

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Federal Communications Commission
Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau
Consumer Complaints
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

FCC Mail Room

Dear FCC Commissioners,

I am writing to request that you do not permit cell phone calls on commercial aircraft. I fly a lot. I have amassed over one million frequent flyer miles on American Airlines, 634,000 on United and the former Continental Airlines, and 988,000 on Delta and the former Northwest.

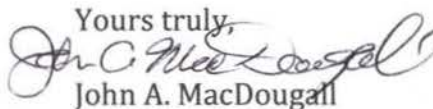
Airplanes today are nearly always full. Seats in coach are 17.17 inches across and the seat pitch is shrinking from the former 32" to 30" on many carriers and as little as 28" on discount carriers. People are jammed in tight.

I fly from Minneapolis to Los Angeles often, which is four hours. I try to rest, because I work hard. I don't want to be surrounded by loud talkers. People will talk loudly on cell phones because the ambient noise on jets is loud, due to engine noise levels. They will have to talk loudly, just to hear themselves.

In addition, airlines serve liquor. When people drink, they naturally speak more loudly, because they are disinhibited and have additional trouble hearing themselves.

Permitting cell phone use on crowded airliners in cramped spaces will lead to disorder on planes. This is not the usual concern of the Federal Communication Commission, and it is not a technical issue of radio waves. However, the FCC regulates devices to see that they don't interfere with other devices. In this case, you may want to see that cell phones don't interfere with public order.

Yours truly,


John A. MacDougall